

Architects Office,New City Hall,

PHILADELPHIA.

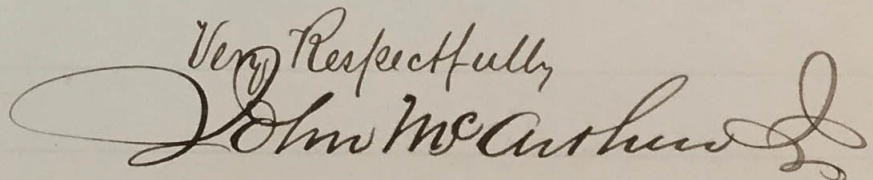
Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> 1886.

M. H. Cobb Esq, Cashier, Mint U.S. Philada.

Sir:

In reply to your communication of this date, I have to say that all the data from which an intelligent answer to your inquiry relative "to the strength of the girders upholding vaults on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor new Post office" could be calculated, were forwarded to Washington when the Office of Superintendent of Construction was vacated, and I think the matter is of too much importance to be treated lightly and an opinion given without being fortified with all the details of that portion of the building referred to, but from the deflection which has occurred, as stated by you, I incline to believe that the limit of elasticity has been reached, and that it would be unsafe to increase the load.

If you will address Mr. M. E. Bell Sup'g Architect of the Treasury Department to whom the plans, specifications &c of the new Post Office were returned you will probably be able to acquire the information desired, and regretting my inability to answer your note more satisfactorily, I am

Very Respectfully  
  
Architect

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 142

Architect's Office,  
New City Hall,  
Philadelphia.

November 22, 1886

M.H. Cobb Esq., Cashier, Mint U.S. Philada.

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Very Respectfully,  
John McArthur Jr.  
Architect